

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 30, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and, at the outset, Applicant calls the Examiner's attention to the filing date of the Desplace patent 6,551,105, which is the earliest date that can be relied on to establish this reference as prior art. The filing date is March 21, 2001, more than six (6) months later than Applicant's filing date. The Desplace patent is not prior art.

Summary of the Office Action

Process Claims 24-27, 32, and 34-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Desplace in combination with one or more other references. Claims 32 and 33 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 in view of Laz, "The Six Levels of a Happy Marriage", and Sherin '106 and further in view of Lui et al '696.

The Claims

The rejection of claims 24-27 and 32, 34-37 in view of Desplace '105 and others is respectfully traversed as Desplace does not constitute prior art for the reason noted above.

The subject matter of claim 34 has been incorporated into claim 32. The Laz combination relied on for rejecting claims 32 and 33 does not apply to claim 32 as amended.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the objections have been traversed and all claims of the application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Attorney Docket: T2739-906589
Application Serial No.: 09/661,447
Responsive to Official Action dated Jan. 30, 2004

Should the Examiner believe that further amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a personal interview would be advantageous in order to more expeditiously resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

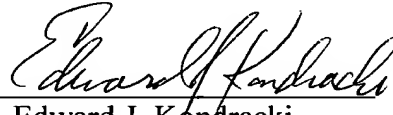
To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (Attorney Docket No T2739-906589) and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MILES & STOCKBRIDGE P.C.

Date: May 28, 2004

By: _____



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